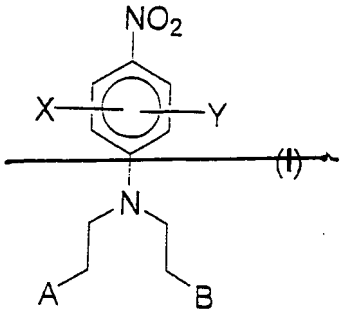
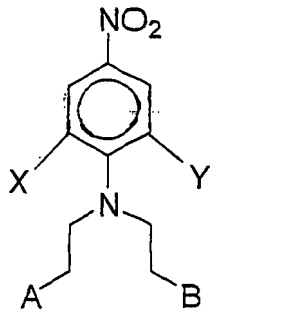
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 (currently amended). A nitroaniline-based unsymmetrical mustard represented by the general formula ~~(I)~~ (IIb);



~~(I)~~



(IIb)

wherein X represents one of the groups NO_2, CN, or SO_2R^1, where R^1 represents a C_{1-6}-~~lower~~ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups ~~and wherein when R^1 represents a tertiary amine the N-oxide derivative of the tertiary amine is further included~~;

Y represents one of the groups OR^2, $NHCOR^2$, ~~$CONR^2CO_2R^3$~~ $CONHR^2CO_2R^3$, ~~$CONR^2$morpholide~~ $CONHR^2$morpholide, $CONHR^2$, $CONR^2R^3$, $CONHOR^2$, $CONHSO_2R^2$, SO_2NH_2, SO_2NHR^2 or $SO_2NR^2R^3$ wherein each R^2 and R^3 independently represent a H, C_{1-6}-~~lower~~ alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkylene optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups; and A and B each independently represent halogen, OSO_2R^4, OSO_2NH_2, OSO_2NHR^4 or $OSO_2NR^4R^5$, wherein each R^4 and R^5 independently represent a C_{1-6}-~~lower~~ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups ~~and wherein when each R^4 and R^5~~

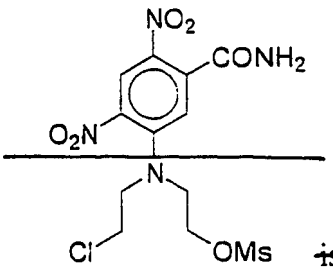
~~independently represents a tertiary amine the N-oxide derivative of the tertiary amine is further included~~;

and pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and salts thereof;

with the proviso that A and B are different from each other.

~~(i) that A ≠ B and~~

~~that~~



~~is excluded.~~

2 (canceled).

3 (currently amended). The nitroaniline-based unsymmetrical mustard as claimed in claim 1 selected from:

~~5-[(2-Bromoethyl)(2-chloroethyl)amino]-2,4-dinitrobenzamide,~~

~~2-[5-(Aminocarbonyl)(2-bromoethyl)-2,4-dinitroanilino]ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~2-[5-(Aminocarbonyl)(2-iodoethyl)-2,4-dinitroanilino]ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~2-((2-Bromoethyl)5-{[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]carbonyl}-2,4-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~2-((2-Bromoethyl)5-{[(3-hydroxypropyl)amino]carbonyl}-2,4-dinitroanilino)ethyl~~

~~methanesulfonate,~~

~~2-((2-Bromoethyl)-5-{[(2,3-dihydroxypropyl)amino]carbonyl}-2,4-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

2-[2-(Aminocarbonyl)(2-chloroethyl)-4,6-dinitroanilino]ethyl methanesulfonate,

2[2-(Aminocarbonyl)(2-bromoethyl)-4,6-dinitroanilino]ethyl methanesulfonate,

2-((2-Bromoethyl)-2-{[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]carbonyl}-4,6-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,

2-((2-Iodoethyl)-2-{[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]carbonyl}-4,6-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,

2-((2-Bromoethyl)-2-{[(2-hydroxypropyl)amino]carbonyl}-4,6-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,

2-((2-Bromoethyl)-2-{[(2,3-dihydroxypropyl)amino]carbonyl}-4,6-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,

2-[(2-Bromoethyl)-2-({[3-(4-morpholinyl)propyl]amino}carbonyl)-4,6-dinitroanilino]ethyl methanesulfonate,

Methyl 3-{[2-((2-chloroethyl){2-[(methylsulfonyl)oxy]ethyl}amino)-3,5-dinitrobenzoyl]amino}propanoate, and

Methyl 3-{[2-((2-bromoethyl){2-[(methylsulfonyl)oxy]ethyl}amino)-3,5-dinitrobenzoyl]amino}propanoate~~,~~

~~2-[3-(Aminocarbonyl)(2-chloroethyl)-2,4-dinitroanilino]ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~2-[3-(Aminocarbonyl)(2-bromoethyl)-2,6-dinitroanilino]ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~2-((2-Bromoethyl)-3-{[(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]carbonyl}-2,6-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~2-((2-Chloroethyl)-3-[[(3-hydroxypropyl)amino]carbonyl]-2,4-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~2-((2-Bromoethyl)-3-[[(3-hydroxypropyl)amino]carbonyl]-2,6-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~2-((2-Bromoethyl)-3-[[(4-hydroxybutyl)amino]carbonyl]-2,6-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

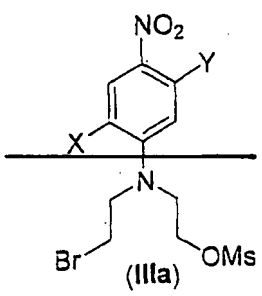
~~2-((2-Chloroethyl)-3-[[(2,3-dihydroxypropyl)amino]carbonyl]-2,4-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

~~2-((2-Bromoethyl)-3-[[(2,3-dihydroxypropyl)amino]carbonyl]-2,4-dinitroanilino)ethyl methanesulfonate,~~

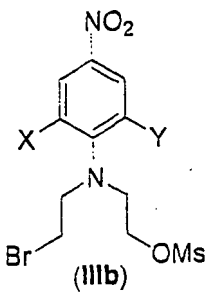
~~2-[(2-Chloroethyl)-3-({[3-(4-morpholinyl)propyl]amino}carbonyl)-2,4-dinitroanilino]ethyl methanesulfonate and~~

~~2-[(2-Bromoethyl)-3-({[3-(4-morpholinyl)propyl]amino}carbonyl)-2,4-dinitroanilino]ethyl methanesulfonate~~.

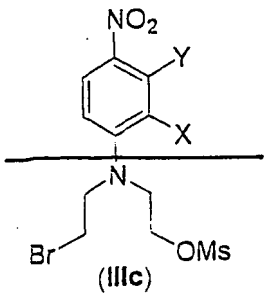
4 (currently amended). The nitroaniline-based unsymmetrical mustard as claimed in claim 1 selected from a compound represented by ~~one of formulae (IIIa-IIIc)~~ formula (IIIb)



(IIIa)



(IIIb)

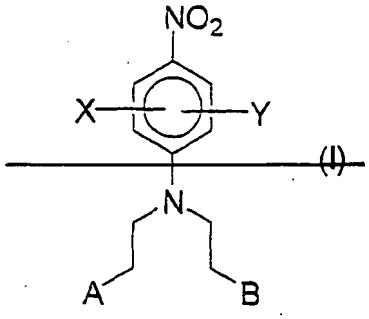


(IIIc)

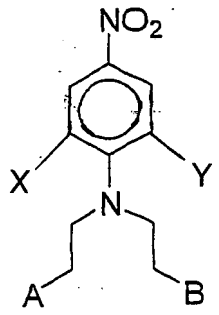
wherein X, Y, are as defined in claim 1 ~~for a compound of Formula (I)~~; and pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and salts thereof.

5 (canceled).

6 (currently amended). A method of preparing a nitroaniline-based unsymmetrical mustard represented by the general formula ~~(I)~~ (IIb);



~~(I)~~



(IIb)

wherein X represents one of the groups NO_2, CN, or SO_2R^1, where R^1 represents a C_{1-6}-~~lower~~ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups ~~and wherein when R^1 represents a tertiary amine the N-oxide derivative of the tertiary amine is further included~~;

Y represents one of the groups OR^2, $NHCOR^2$, ~~$CONR^2CO_2R^3$~~,

~~CONR^{2}morpholide~~ CONHR^{2}CO$_2$R^3, CONHR^{2}morpholide, CONHR^2, CONR^{2}R^3, CONHOR^2, CONHSO$_2$R^2, SO$_2$NH$_2$, SO$_2$NHR^2 or SO$_2$NR^{2}R^3 wherein each R^2 and R^3 independently represent a H, C$_{1-6}$-~~lower~~ alkyl or C$_{1-6}$-alkylene optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups; and A and B each independently represent halogen, OSO$_2$R^4, OSO$_2$NH$_2$, OSO$_2$NHR^4 or OSO$_2$NR^{4}R^5, wherein each R^4 and R^5 independently represent a C$_{1-6}$-~~lower~~ alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxy and/or one or more amino groups ~~and wherein when each R^4 and R^5 independently represents a tertiary amine the N-oxide derivative of the tertiary amine is further included~~;

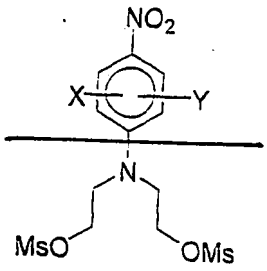
and pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and salts thereof;

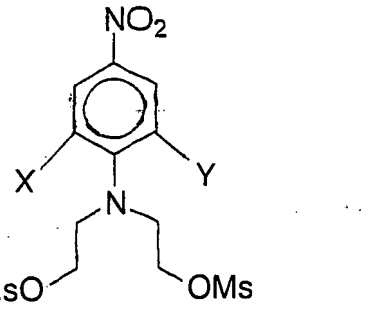
with the proviso that A and B are different to each other,

~~(i) that A ≠ B~~

the method including the step of

reacting a compound of

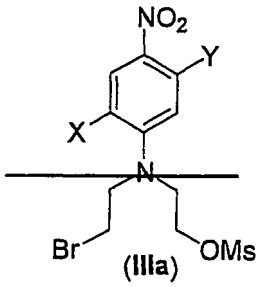




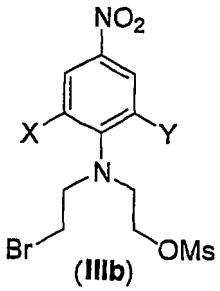
with an amount of an alkali metal halide in a polar solvent to give an unsymmetrical halo-mesylate compound.

7 (canceled).

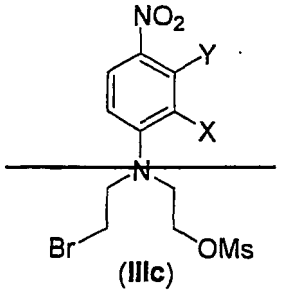
8 (currently amended). The method of preparing a nitroaniline-based unsymmetrical mustard represented by ~~one of formulae (IIIa-IIIc)~~ formula (IIIb) as claimed in claim 4



(IIIa)



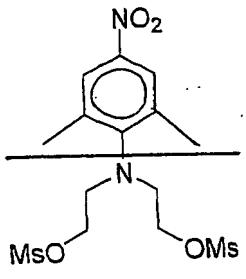
(IIIb)

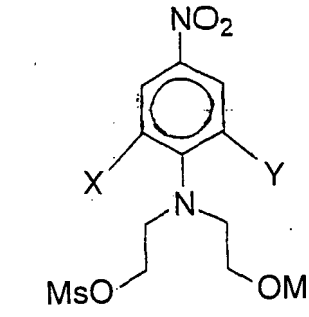


(IIIc)

wherein X, Y, are as defined in claim 1 for a compound of Formula ~~(I)~~ (IIb); and pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives and salts thereof; the method including the step of

reacting a compound of formula





with an amount of LiBr in a polar solvent to give a bromo mesylate of ~~one of formulae (IIIa-IIIc)~~ formula (IIIb).

9 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the polar solvent is selected from acetonitrile, dimethylformamide, ethyl acetate, triethylamine, acetone and mixtures thereof.

10 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the alkali metal halide is selected from one or more of the following; LiCl, LiBr, NaI and NaBr.

11 (currently amended). A compound of formula ~~(I)~~ (IIb) obtained by any one of the methods as claimed in claim 6.

12-15 (canceled).

16 (currently amended). A method of cell ablation therapy utilising at least one endogenous nitroreductase enzyme, wherein the method includes the step of administering a compound of Formula ~~I~~ (IIb) as claimed in claim 1 in a "therapeutically effective amount" to ablate tumour cells in tissue in a subject, wherein said tissue expresses at least one endogenous nitroreductase enzyme, to activate the compound of formula (IIb) into an active metabolite to ablate the tumor cells.

17-18 (canceled).

19 (currently amended). A pharmaceutical composition including a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula ~~I~~ (IIb) as defined in claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, adjuvant, carrier, buffer or stabiliser.

20-21 (canceled).